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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1793.

Whitehall, December 25.

THE Diſpatches, of which the following are Copies and an Extract, were Yeſterday received from Major-General David Dundas, Vice-Admiral Lord Hood, and Sir Gilbert Elliot, Baronet, by the Right Honorable Henry Dundas, His Majeſty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department, dated Toulon, November 30, and December 1, 1793.

Toulon, November 30, 1793.

SIR,

I Have the Honor to acquaint you, that the Enemy, having opened a conſiderable Battery on the Height of Arenes, which much annoyed One of our principal Out-Poſts, (Malbouſquet) it became neceſſary to attack it. Diſpoſitions for that Purpoſe were made, and this Morning, at Five o'Clock, a Corps of Four Hundred Britiſh, Three Hundred Sardinians, Six Hundred Neapolitans, Six Hundred Spaniards, and Four Hundred French, under my Command, marched from the Town. Notwithſtanding the Whole was obliged to croſs the New River on One Bridge only, to divide into Four Columns, to march acroſs Olive Grounds, interſected by Stone Walls, and to aſcend a very conſiderable Height, cut into Vine Teraſſes, yet we ſucceeded in ſurprizing and forcing the Enemy, and were ſoon in full Poſſeſſion of the Battery and Height: But, I am ſorry to ſay, that, inſtead of forming upon and occupying the long and narrow Summit of the Hill, agreeable to Orders and military Prudence, the Impetuoſity of the Troops led them to follow the Enemy, to deſcend the Height, to aſcend other diſtant Heights, and, at laſt, in Diſorder, to encounter ſuch ſuperior advancing Numbers,

Numbers, as obliged them precipitately to retire, and to relinquish the Advantages we at firſt gained.

It is with much Concern, I muſt add, that Lieutenant-General O'Hara, who had arrived at the Battery on our firſt Succeſs, was involved in the Conſequence of this ſudden Reverſe, was wounded in the Arm, and made Priſoner.

We have to regret that ſo many gallant Officers and Men have ſuffered on this Occaſion. The Loſs of the Britiſh I have the Honor to incloſe; that of the other Nations is not in Proportion great.

From General O'Hara's Abſence the Command devolves on me. I ſhall endeavour to diſcharge it to the beſt of my Ability and Health, till His Majeſty's further Pleaſure is ſignified.

With great Reſpect,

I have the Honor to be, &c.

(Signed) D. DUNDAS,
Major-General.

Right Hon. Henry Dundas,
&c. &c. &c.

Return of the Killed, Wounded and Miſſing of the Britiſh Troops on the 30th of November, 1793, at Toulon.

Royal Artillery. 1 Captain, 1 Lieutenant, 1 Drummer, 5 Rank and File, wounded.

2d Battalion Royals. 1 Lieutenant, 1 Serjeant, 9 Rank and File, killed; 2 Captains, 3 Lieutenants, 2 Serjeants, 1 Drummer, 32 Rank and File, wounded; 2 Serjeants, 1 Drummer, 57 Rank and File, miſſing.

11th Regiment. 4 Rank and File wounded.

Royal Iriſh. 7 Rank and File killed; 24 Rank and File wounded; 4 Serjeants, 1 Drummer, 29 Rank and File, miſſing.

25th Regiment. 1 Rank and File killed; 1 Captain wounded.

30th Regiment. 3 Rank and File wounded.

69th Regiment. 1 Rank and File killed; 5 Rank and File wounded; 1 Major, 1 Serjeant, miſſing.

Marines. 5 Rank and File wounded; 2 Rank and File miſſing.

Total. 1 Lieutenant, 1 Serjeant, 18 Rank and File, killed; 4 Captains, 4 Lieutenants, 2 Serjeants, 2 Drummers, 78 Rank and File, wounded; 1 Major, 7 Serjeants, 2 Drummers, 88 Rank and File, miſſing.

Officers killed, wounded, and taken Priſoners.

Lieutenant-General O'Hara wounded and taken Priſoner.

Captain Snow, Deputy Quarter-Maſter-General, killed.

Captain Smith, 25th Regiment, Major of Brigade, wounded.

Royals. Captain Reeves wounded and taken Priſoner.

Ditto. Captain Finney wounded and taken Priſoner.

Ditto. Lieutenant-Colonel M'Donald wounded.

Ditto. Lieutenant Mackenzie wounded.

Ditto. Lieutenant Bird wounded and miſſing.

Ditto. Lieutenant M'Kellar killed.

69th Regiment. Major Campbell taken Priſoner.

Royal Artillery. Captain Stephens wounded.

Ditto. Lieutenant Bradie wounded.

George Smith, Major of Brigade.

Victory, Toulon Road,
November 30, 1793.

SIR,

THE Enemy having erected and opened a Battery againſt the Poſt of Malbouſquet, and from which Shells would reach the Town and Arſenal, Governor O'Hara ſignified to me Yeſterday his Intention to attempt to deſtroy it, and bring off the Guns; and requeſted ſome Seamen to be ſent to a Poſt he propoſed to withdraw the Britiſh Soldiers from. The Governor promiſed not to go out himſelf, but unfortunately did not keep his Word. A moſt clear, diſtinct and regular Plan was ſettled, and the Commanding Officer of the Troops of each Nation had a Copy of it. The Troops moved at Four o'Clock this Morning, and ſurprized the Redoubt moſt completely: Never was a Service performed with more Regularity and Exactneſs; but

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the Ardour and Impetuosity of the Troops (instead of forming on the Height where the Battery was raised, as they were particularly ordered to do) led them to ruth after the Enemy, near a Mile on the other Side, in a very scattered and irregular Manner. The Consequence of which was, the Enemy collected in very great Force; and, in the Retreat of our Troops, they suffered extremely. I herewith transmit an Account of the Loss of the British in killed, wounded and missing: But Major-General Dundas will give you more Particulars. The Governor most unfortunately was wounded and taken Prisoner. A Surgeon was sent to him immediately, (by Permission of General Du Gommier, Commander in Chief of the Eastern Army at the Siege of Toulon) who reports that the Governor's Wound is a Flesh-one only in the Arm; but being faint by the Loss of Blood, he was obliged to sit down under a Wall, and there made Prisoner of.

I have the Honor to be, &c.

HOOD.

Right Hon. Henry Dundas,
&c. &c. &c.

Extract of a Letter from Sir Gilbert Elliot, Bart. to the Right Honorable Henry Dundas, His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Home Department.

Toulon, December 1, 1793.

KNowing that General Dundas has sent you an official Account of the unfortunate Action of Yesterday, and that Lord Hood has also written on the same Subject, you will not expect a Relation of it from me. I cannot, however, lose the Opportunity which the Messenger affords, of saying, that, by the unanimous Testimony of those who either witnessed the Action, or were acquainted with the Plan, there never was an Occasion on which the Dispositions were made with greater Ability and Judgment, or executed, as long as the Orders were complied with, in a more gallant or spirited Manner by the Troops. It is a real Consolation to know that the Courage of the British was conspicuous from the Beginning of the Action to the End, and that an Excess in that good Quality was the true and only Cause of the Miscarriage. It is much to be regretted that General O'Hara was, on every Occasion, so prodigal of his Person; but the Misfortune which has befallen him, and the severe Loss which the Service sustains by his Capture, cannot be ascribed even to this honorable Fault; for he did not himself ascend the Battery till it was possessed by our Troops, and there was Reason to suppose the Object of the Day had been obtained. The Reverse was so sudden, and his Presence must have appeared so material towards restoring Order, and retrieving the Error which had been committed by the Troops, that it is not to be wondered at if, with his Spirit, he became exposed to personal Hazard. His Wound, though not dangerous or serious, had bled much, and, added to the Exertion he had before made, weakened him so much that he could not retire many Paces with the Troops, but insisted on being left by Two Soldiers who were conducting him, and whom he ordered to proceed and save themselves.

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